Module Specification

Employability, Ethics, and Enterprise

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Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Employability, Ethics, and Enterprise

Module code: UBLL7K-15-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2027-28

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

College: College of Arts, Technology and Environment

School: CATE School of Architecture and Environment

Partner institutions: None

Field: Architecture and the Built Environment

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module prepares students for professional architectural practice by engaging them with ethical principles, statutory requirements, and practice management strategies. Key topics include employability, reflective practice, and professional growth. Students will explore the Architects' Code of Conduct, sustainability standards, and health and safety regulations, connecting these principles to their professional identity. Through case studies, simulated client interactions, and reflective exercises, students will develop a portfolio that

demonstrates their readiness to navigate the complexities of the architecture profession and articulate their professional identity effectively to industry professionals.

This module addresses ethical practice and the architect's responsibility toward social purpose and public welfare. Students explore the role of the architect in prioritising health, safety, and wellbeing.

Features: Ethics, professionalism and employability focused module: Provides a foundational framework for industry-wide ethical practice, including the Architects Code, and preparation for employment in industry.

Real-World Case studies: Individual and collective exploration of project environments, business skills and reviewing of client expectations.

Statutory Knowledge: The module introduces key statutory frameworks, including health and safety regulations, planning laws, and sustainability standards, equipping students to navigate the legal and regulatory dimensions of architectural practice.

Career Development Focus: Practical activities such as CV writing and employability strategies prepare students for successful career progression.

Reflective Learning: Structured reflective exercises enable students to assess their personal and professional development, fostering a mindset of continuous learning and improvement.

Innovative Presentation Formats: The Personal and Practice Identity project work offers flexibility in showcasing professional identity through creative formats like pitch videos, business plans, or personal presentations, tailored to individual strengths and career goals.

Educational aims: The aims of this module are to:

Equip students with a critical understanding of professional and ethical principles, emphasising the Architects' Code of Conduct and its application to real-world

scenarios.

Provide students with the knowledge and skills to integrate statutory requirements, such as health and safety regulations and sustainability standards, into architectural workflows.

Develop students' ability to articulate a clear and cohesive professional identity, aligned with ethical values, inclusivity, and sustainability principles.

Foster employability by preparing students with practical skills for career development, including CV writing and business skills.

Encourage reflective practice to promote self-awareness and professional growth, ensuring students are well-prepared for lifelong learning and the demands of work.

Outline syllabus: Ethics and Codes: Students will examine the Architects' Code of Conduct in depth, exploring its relevance to ethical decision-making in professional practice. Ethical challenges will be contextualised through real-world examples and case studies, focusing on the architect's obligations to clients, society, and the environment. Discussions will include how architects balance client demands with public welfare, inclusivity, and sustainability principles.

Statutory Frameworks: A comprehensive introduction to essential statutory frameworks will be provided, including health and safety regulations, planning laws, and sustainability standards. Students will learn to integrate these requirements into their workflows, ensuring compliance and aligning with professional expectations.

Employability: This section equips students with practical skills for career development. Activities include CV writing and strategies for effective job applications. Students will also explore career pathways within the architectural profession and adjacent industries, considering how to align personal ambitions with market opportunities.

Reflective Practice: Students will engage in reflective exercises to identify their

strengths, areas for growth, and professional aspirations. Techniques for lifelong learning and professional development will be introduced, enabling students to create actionable career development plans.

In this module the following competencies are met and assessed to passing standard:

The role of architects in society, the design team and the construction industry.

Work with clients and other stakeholders to gain a mutual understanding of constraints and opportunities, identify immediate and long-term interests, set project agendas, define desirable and feasible project outcomes, and develop appropriate briefs for projects.

Make use of the principles of sustainable, responsible and ethical practice, and recognise how they relate to running an architect's practice.

Recognise the significance of the Architects Code of Conduct, and the need for architects to act always in an ethical and professional manner.

Display a committed approach to equity, diversity and inclusion, including in their approach to designing environments and in their relationships with colleagues, employees, clients and communities.

Uphold the architect's obligations to the health and safety of the public and building users and building constructors.

Recognise the responsibilities and duties of care that architects have towards their clients, users, the public and those with whom they work.

Adopt a reflective approach to their work by identifying individual learning needs required for further development within the profession, ensuring they are up to date

with current standards and best practice.

Acknowledge and work within the limits of their competence, expertise, and experience.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module employs a mix of theoretical and applied learning approaches:

Lectures and Case Studies: Provide foundational knowledge on ethics, statutory frameworks, and professional principles, illustrated with real-world architectural practices.

Workshops: Offer hands-on opportunities for CV writing and practice identity development. Workshops also simulate professional scenarios, enabling students to navigate client interactions and stakeholder engagement.

Seminars: Facilitate small-group discussions to explore ethical dilemmas, reflective practices, and employability strategies in depth, supported by tutor guidance.

Reflective Exercises: Weekly activities encourage students to evaluate their learning and professional behaviours, connecting theoretical knowledge with practical applications.

Industry Engagement: Guest speakers from built environment practices provide insights into career development and professional challenges.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

> **MO1** Demonstrate a critical understanding of professional and ethical responsibilities, including compliance with the Architects' Code of Conduct and statutory frameworks.

MO2 Reflect on personal and professional growth, identifying strategies for lifelong learning and readiness for industry roles.

MO3 Develop and articulate a professional identity that integrates employability strategies, sustainability, inclusivity, and health and safety principles.

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/E7CF10C0-4CD0-F32A-BDE9-52EFE4F5D0A9.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Project (100%) – Personal and Practice Identity

Rationale: The assessment is designed to allow students to articulate their professional identity and readiness for architectural practice. By integrating theoretical knowledge with practical application, students will demonstrate their understanding of ethical principles, statutory requirements, and employability strategies. The report provides a flexible format for students to showcase their practice identity, tailored to their individual strengths and career aspirations.

1. Practice Identity:

Students choose one format to present their architectural practice identity:

Pitch Video: A 5-minute video articulating their practice ethos, supported by visuals of their final year project.

Business Plan Document: A written plan outlining their practice's mission, services, sustainability strategy, and market positioning.

Website: A website showcasing their practice identity, final year project, and professional narrative.

Personal Pitch: A live 10-minute presentation to a panel supported by a visual portfolio or handout.

Focus Areas: Ethical and professional principles, inclusivity, sustainability, and health and safety integration.

2. Personal Identity:

A reflective component focusing on career goals and professional growth strategies, including:

Updated CV tailored to a specific career path.

A learning plan identifying areas for future development and professional goals.

A reflective essay (1,000 words) addressing how their practice would aligns with and negotiate their ethical, statutory and legal requirements.

Assessment Objectives: Students will articulate a coherent and professional practice identity that integrates financial, sustainability, and statutory knowledge, demonstrating their ability to align with industry expectations. They will critically reflect on their professional development needs, identifying actionable strategies to support their career growth and ensure continuous learning. Through creative and professional outputs, students will showcase a clear understanding of employability strategies and demonstrate their readiness to navigate the demands of industry roles effectively.

Formative Opportunities: Formative feedback is provided through reviews and

interim submissions, ensuring students can refine their work iteratively and align with the module's learning outcomes.

Plagiarism Prevention: The assessment design emphasises originality through creative outputs (e.g., videos, business plans, or personal presentations) and tailored reflections. Ongoing feedback ensures authenticity and alignment with individual career goals

Resit Assessment: The resit assessment will follow the same format as the original submission. Students will be required to revise and resubmit their work addressing feedback received and ensuring alignment with the module's learning outcomes and assessment objectives.

Assessment tasks:

Project (First Sit)
Description: Personal and Practice Identity
Weighting: 100 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Project (Resit)
Description: Personal and Practice Identity
Weighting: 100 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: